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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2825

**32692**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent
Case No.: 53415US038

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEFirst Named Inventor: **HARDY, L. CHARLES**Application No.: **09/707,269**Group Art Unit: **2825**Filed: **November 6, 2000**Examiner: **Caridad Everhart**Title: **METHOD OF MODIFYING A WAFER SUITED FOR SEMICONDUCTOR FABRICATION****RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

To Fax No.: 703-872-9319

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

May 30, 2003
Date*Susan P. Gumatz*
Susan P. Gumatz

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action, mailed January 9, 2003, in the above-identified application, and concurrent with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). This Amendment is believed to be timely submitted. If any extension of time is required to consider this response, such extension is hereby requested.

REMARKS

Claims 16-35 are pending. Applicants filed a Notice of Appeal on April 9, 2003, and are now filing an RCE in lieu of the appeal.

The present invention is directed towards a working liquid useful in modifying the surface of a wafer suited for fabrication of a semiconductor device (see, page 20, lines 17-25).

The liquid is an aqueous solution (page 20, line 25-27) comprising:

- (a) an oxidizing agent (page 20, line 25 – page 22, line 14);
- (b) a complexing agent (page 22, line 15 – page 23, line 12); and